

JUGHEADS

JOURNAL

Monthly news of JUGHEADS Youth Juggling Company, LLC • Edina, Minnesota • October 2013

Student Leaders: Vital Server-Learners

17 Assistants & Volunteers help coaches

If this director were to write a book on JH, an entire chapter would be devoted to the development and vital role of our student leadership team! Alas, space prohibits a proper tribute to them, but their names are listed below for parents to memorize, use and honor for the good work they do in their respective clubs. Here are our **Assistants**, including grade, JH year, and member-clubs:

MONDAY REC.— **Taylor C.:** Junior, 4th year, UC & Elite; **Reid J.+*:** Junior, 8th year, UC & Elite; **Riga M.:** Soph., 8th year, UC & Elite; **Chris V.:** Soph., 5th year, UC & Elite.

ADVANCED—**Sydney P.+*:** Senior, 6th year, UC & Elite; **Evan P.+*:** Senior, 10th year, UC & Elite.

THURSDAY REC.— **Nick H.+*:** Senior, 8th year, UC & Elite; **Sam K.+*:** Junior, 4th year, UC & Elite.

FRIDAY REC.— **Carolyn L.:** Soph., 5th year, Elite; **Erica L.+*:** Senior, 5th year, UC & Elite; **Andy O.:** Soph., 5th year, Elite.

+**Officer** in '12-'13. ***Earned varsity letter** in juggling in '12-'13.

The intern-like **Volunteers** don't bear the same high expectations placed on the employee-like Assistants, but they immerse in a year of training before assisting. Our 2013-'14 Volunteers are:

MONDAY REC.— **Maddie R.** (Soph., 8th year, Elite); part-time: **Alayna B.** (Soph., 6th year, Elite).

ADVANCED—**Nathan L.** (Senior, 2nd year, hybrid); **Max S.** (Soph., 3rd year, UC & Elite).

FRIDAY REC.— **Elise J.** (freshman, 7th year, Elite); **Danny M.** (freshman, 3rd year, Advanced).

Officer Voice: Erica L.

Even though it's only October, there's something about Juggle Jam (JJ) I'd like us to consider. What must we do to make it from now to "Rock This Town" and "Reach"? For those who haven't had the JJ experience, imagine what it takes to get an over two hour full scale juggling show featuring 139 kids from 2nd to 12th grade off the ground. In retrospect, it can be quite overwhelming. However, things happen day by day. Each club, we work toward our goals and dreams.

Sometimes the preparations for JJ aren't the most enjoyable or comfortable. We're encouraged to make dramatic

movements, in front of our entire club. We continually drill poses, choreography and drop recovery. We are even asked to sit still, listen to feedback and apply it. At the time, these JJ lessons may seem silly, unnecessary. However, when JJ comes around we apply these things, often unconsciously, and they make all the difference. Though not always appreciated in the learning moment, these JJ lessons are valuable.

Sometimes the preparations for *life* aren't the most enjoyable or comfortable. As coaches and student leaders, we try to apply the idea of JJ lessons to the non-stage lives of the Jugheads. Like JJ lessons that have benefit on stage, we offer life lessons that have value in the stages of life. When we ask kids to pick up props or garbage, to refrain from some behavior, or praise them, we are equipping them for life. Friends, parents, teachers and employers value people of good character that can work with others. They receive extra responsibilities and privileges. Just as we strive to prepare Jugheads with the skills needed for JJ, so too we work to prepare them for the lives they'll lead.

So how does all this relate to our annual JJ opener and closer? Fall season is our preparation to "Rock This Town". We are rocking each other's towns, so to speak, by getting to know one another, learning new skills, and setting goals. Then comes JJ season when we use our new abilities to create a show. After much hard work comes the moment itself. For two nights in May, we run on stage and perform, opening with "Rock This Town". Audiences are amazed at what we can do as a company. The effort we put in pays off. This would not be possible if somewhere along the way we had not reached toward goals and hard things. Part of what makes JJ so rewarding is the knowledge that we tried our very best, put our spirits to the test, that we reached.

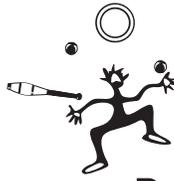
Even though JJ is still a comfortable distance away, I encourage each Jughead to contemplate this: "What do you want to achieve by May?" *Now* is the time to build those skills, to begin learning JJ and life lessons. So let's get started preparing ourselves to "Rock." Let's set goals and get excited because the reaching starts right...now.

—**Erica L.:** 5th Year Jughead, Officer, Friday Rec. Assistant, Ultimate & Elite Club member, H.S. Senior



Rookie **Bennett H.** (Thur. Rec. 4th grader) learned to juggle while wheelchair-confined (!) due to a long-term leg injury.





School Release Day Juggling Camps

A taste of summer in fall & winter!

Half-day JH camps are a great use of release days, remind us of summer, and are open to all skill levels! Our camps are 9-Noon and 1-4 pm on **Oct. 17–18 & Nov. 25–27**, plus Mega Camps 9-5 pm on **Jan. 20–21, Feb. 18 & Mar. 7** (w/half-day option). *Any* camp is open to *any* Jughead, but mornings are *tailored* to Rec.-level kids. Register online or via the blue form.

CLUB SPOTLIGHT: Monday Rec. Club

Maturing club has symmetry and balance

Despite its in-house reputation for being the youngest and least-skilled club, Monday Rec. continues to mature in focus, ability, and average age. This year, Monday has nearly as many 6th-7th graders as 2nd-4th graders, with 15 5th graders rounding out our roster. Add to that our 1:1 ratio of boys & girls, and this club is demographically symmetrical while being a perennial favorite for members and leaders alike. What had been for years our #1 entry-level club, Monday Rec. is now dominated by veterans with 1-4 years of experience. Graced last year by **Wendy Arneberg's** choreography of an entire "Bollywood" routine for JJ15, even the performing scope of Monday Rec. continues to improve, and Wendy is already wroking on this club's JJ16 theme, a tribute to ABBA.

JUGHEADS Community News

- **JUGGLE JAM 16 (JJ16)** dates are set: Fri. & Sat., May 16-17, 2014, with all-cast dress rehearsals **May 8 & 14** from 6-9 p.m. Mark your calendars! **NOTE:** All Jugheads are encouraged to perform in JJ16. Details will be outlined in winter *JH Journals*.
- **Welcome to Lawson R.**, new Thursday Rec. 5th grader!
- **"YOUTH JUGGLING LIVES HERE":** Show your support for JUGHEADS by displaying your yard sign in October & November. Don't have one? Just ask and pick yours up at JH.
- **NEXT OFFICER MEETING:** 10/12, 9 a.m. @ Peters'.

Paul's Platform: "For Such a Time as This"

We're in the simplistic and relatively blissful season of normalcy: no imminent graduations, show rehearsals, festivals, or transitions. It's often during these "ordinary times" that some of the best life lessons can be taught, and role modeling is often most real in mundane circumstances. Every year, I have kids that drop out without a good-bye. I also have kids that go down in history as deeply significant to the company collectively and/or to me personally (regardless of their length of tenure). Ironically, I can never truly predict how any given Jughead career will pan out! Part of this makes me slightly jaded—"Why *care* if kids just stop coming or lose interest?" But another part of me rises to the challenge—"Is there *any way* I can lovingly influence the kids for however long I have them, whether they discontinue due to choice, graduation, or circumstances out of their control?" I know that affecting a child's life need not take years, but sometimes minutes (for good or bad). I believe that "love" is spelled "T-I-M-E" for a child, but still, quantity of time doesn't guarantee that a true difference is made in a young person.

Queen Esther is the biblical hero who stood in the gap for the Jewish people in the face of imminent genocide. Her cousin and adoptive father, Mordecai, challenged her to bravely approach the king and intervene to stop the edict to slaughter the Jews: "For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place...And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" (Esther 4:14, ESV). Sometimes it takes decades or even centuries to change a kingdom. For Esther, influenced by her wise mentor, it took a couple of feasts (after she and many Jews fasted and prayed for three days!). Even 10 years is only a fraction of a person's life (assuming he or she reaches 78.7 years), so I can't slack and delay good work in the lives of youth because time is on my side. It's really not. But whether over a couple of meals, a couple of years, or a couple of *words*, my mission to develop youth through juggling remains alive, and I'm grateful to my coaches and student leaders to be serving your kids with Wendy & me for such a time as this.

Developing Youth Through Juggling Since 1994,

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